



Avon Wildlife Trust

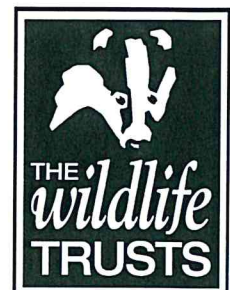
Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

Registered Charity 280422

Registered Company 1495108

*Securing **wildlife** - Inspiring people*

Avon Wildlife Trust
is a company member of
Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
South West Wildlife Trusts
South West Wildlife Fundraising Limited
and **Bristol Natural History Consortium**



Contents

Welcome	3
Report of the Trustees	
Avon Wildlife Trust	4
Review of the year.....	5
Vision.....	6
About Avon Wildlife Trust.....	11
Acknowledgements.....	17
Financial Review.....	18
Compliance (including Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities).....	20
Independent Auditor's report	21
Financial Statements	
Consolidated statement of financial activities	24
Consolidated and charity balance sheets	25
Consolidated cash flow statement and reconciliation of net movement in funds	26
Accounting policies	27
Notes to the Financial Statements	29
Avon Wildlife Trust Nature Reserves	44
Professional Advisors	45

The AWT Group

The Annual Report and Financial Statements refer to 'the AWT Group'. This term is used to include Avon Wildlife Trust and Folly Farm Centre Limited. Further details about the Trust's subsidiary and related companies are given on pages 11-12.

President

Simon King

Vice Presidents

Mark Carwardine, Mike Dilger, Kevin McCloud

Trustees

Chair - David Relph

Ped Asgarian

Emma Beeston (retired 20 May 2020)

Chris Curling

Ross Fairley

Katharine Finn

Bob Goodman (retired 30 November 2020)

Kate Leahy

Nathan Rutter

John Zac Nicholson

Malcolm Shepherd

Mark Steer

Key Personnel

CEO - Ian Barrett

Director of Nature's Recovery Programmes – Amy Coulthard

Director of Finance and Resources – Jane Davis

Finance and Resources Committee

Chair - Katharine Finn

Kate Leahy

David Relph

Malcolm Shepherd

Governance Committee

Chair - Malcolm Shepherd

John Zac Nicholson

David Relph

Nathan Rutter

Ross Fairley

Avon Wildlife Trust was established in 1980.

It is a registered charity reg. no: 280422 and a registered limited liability company reg. no: 1495108.

Registered office: 32 Jacobs Wells Road, Bristol, BS8 1DR

Welcome

Welcome to Avon Wildlife Trust's Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

This year has been more challenging than at any time in our history. Having had to say goodbye to loyal and hardworking members of our team, and furlough many others, the vital work we do to protect the nature on our doorstep was inevitably disrupted. However, despite the difficult decisions and ever-changing demands, reflecting on the year in this annual report we are heartened by what we have managed to achieve thanks to the unwavering support and encouragement of members, funders and donors.

It was reconnecting with nature that helped so many people through the early days of the pandemic and when it came to giving back, so many of you dug deeper than ever before to help ensure that we are now in the position to harness that momentum and get back to what we do best, improving areas for wildlife and connecting people with nature.

Looking back, this year saw fantastic sales of plants and flowers from our Grow Wilder site resulting in more native species than ever before making their way to gardens across the region. We were also able to connect in a digital way with many new supporters joining us following our increased online output. This unexpected benefit means more people can enjoy, learn and share in our wonderful landscape without having to travel, connecting people in greater numbers and including many who previously would not have been able to enjoy our reserves in person.

Where we were sadly unable to continue to welcome the many volunteers who have played such a crucial role in helping us achieve so much over the last 40 years, we are so grateful that those skills were put to good use helping and improving wild spaces on their doorsteps instead, and where we've been able to get things moving again, they have been there ready to get straight back to getting their hands dirty for nature.

There is so much still to be grateful but the next 10 years are crucial. The 2020s must be a powerful decade of transformation, where people everywhere start taking meaningful action on the ecological crisis. We are encouraged that local authorities in our region have declared ecological emergencies and that people everywhere are waking up to the urgent action needed to reverse species decline. But most of all, this year, we are grateful to everyone who kept us going to ensure that Avon Wildlife Trust is still here to play a vital role in leading the change. With that kind of support, we feel hopeful that together we are up to the ambitious level of change that will be needed to ensure an abundance of wildlife can thrive long into the future.

David Relph
Chair of Trustees

Ian Barrett
Chief Executive

Report of the Trustees

The Trustees of Avon Wildlife Trust are pleased to submit their Report on the Trust, together with its Financial Statements, for the year ended 31 March 2021. The Report (pages 5-20) constitutes a Strategic Report in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013.

Avon Wildlife Trust is a charity with over 16,000 members, 800 volunteers, 45 staff and 10 trustees

Our Charitable Objective: to advance environmental protection and improvement for wildlife especially, but not exclusively, in the area formerly known as the County of Avon

Our Vision: nature restored on a grand scale across the West of England. We protect wildlife in the West of England and ensure everyone can enjoy wildlife-rich lives



People are at the heart of everything we do. We work with people to deepen connections with nature, build skills and confidence, and take action for wildlife.

How we work

- We work with communities to create places that work for people and wildlife
- We work in partnership to protect and restore wildlife on a landscape scale
- We make the case for wildlife conservation by using robust evidence and showing what can be done

What we do



Review of the year

The Year in Numbers

The Covid pandemic had an impact on many of our activities but we still achieved many things.

2,426 people took part in 30 Days Wild – almost double the previous year and the most ever participants

1,175 new members joined our community

1,125 ha of nature reserves managed as a core part of the nature recovery network

28 features in local and regional press, online, radio and TV to champion the value of nature

21 landowners engaged with us and received advice on how to manage their land for wildlife

20 km of river was surveyed as part of our Wilder Waterways project

11 badgers were vaccinated against Bovine TB on one of our nature reserves

4 Exmoor ponies continued to create more naturalistic grazing at Folly Farm nature reserve

2 ponds were restored as part of our My Wild City project

Our Vision

Our Vision 2015-2020 is to restore nature on a grand scale across the West of England, and comprises three main objectives:

- Create connect and care for places rich in wildlife
- Inspire people and communities to care for nature
- Champion the value of nature

Our Objectives & Achievements

Create connect and care for places rich in wildlife

Our region contains important urban and rural landscapes which provide shelter and habitat for many wild plants and animals, but our wildlife needs more space to thrive. Although they are beautiful and valuable, we need more than our 30 nature reserves for this to happen.

We are working with key partners and landowners to create a nature recovery network – an interconnected network across the four counties of Avon and beyond, where wildlife can thrive, moving from place to place, living, feeding and flourishing into the future.

If nature is to recover in Avon, it needs more spaces which are bigger, and joined up across a nature recovery network .

Case Study: Wilder Waterways, a Wessex Water Partnership Project

The Land Yeo, a 20km long river in North Somerset, feeds into Tickenham, Nailsea, Kenn Moor and the Severn Estuary, all Sites of Special Scientific Interest. The Land Yeo sits within the North Somerset Levels and Moors (NSLM), a hugely important coastal wetland habitat, including 1160 hectares of peatland.

Crossed by a series of rivers, the NSLM area is drained by an elaborate and extensive network of waterways and ditches. Heavily modified the Land Yeo flows from Dundry Hills into Barrow tanks - a Bristol Water drinking water reservoir. From here, its relatively straight course skirts Flax Bourton, flowing through Nailsea and Clevedon to the Bristol Channel. The river influences the biodiversity of a large area of North Somerset. That's why we're working with Bristol Avon Rivers Trust (BART) to increase the natural capital of this river to create a wilder waterway.

During the winter of 2020, BART delivered a series of surveys to understand and identify the pressures facing the river and to produce a story map. This work has identified key opportunities for habitat creation and enhancement, water quality improvements Natural Flood Management (NFM) such as tree planting, floodplain reconnection and wetland creation.

Avon Wildlife Trust will use the evidence from these surveys and from speaking to local landowners, to develop opportunities for greater biodiversity throughout this important landscape and start working towards creating solutions to improve them.

This year, with funding from Biffa Award and Bannister Charitable Trust, we have focussed our B-Lines work on the network of nature rich grasslands, orchards and woodlands along northern slopes of the Mendip Hills, improving habitats for pollinators on and around key nature reserves such as Hutton Hill.

Summary

- 20km of river surveyed as part of our **Wilder Waterways** project
- 21 Landowners supported through the **Bathscape** project.
- 16ha of grassland restoration carried out under our **Bathscape** Landowner Advisory Service
- 2 ponds were restored at Stockwood Open Space and Hawkfield Meadow through **My Wild City**
- 30% of the ditches at Lawrence Weston Moor Local Wildlife Site were restored through **My Wild City**

Avon Wildlife Trust have been delivering B-Lines in partnership with Buglife since 2014, meaning that we were one of the first regions to implement the B-Lines approach. We were delighted to celebrate with Buglife when B-Lines achieved national coverage this year.

Creating nature rich green spaces where people live has never been more important. This year the ongoing impact of the pandemic saw more people than ever visiting parks and local wildlife sites on their doorstep. Our flagship urban conservation project My Wild City and our Bathscape projects were put on hold in April 2020 but in August we returned to support 21 landowners in the Bathscape area and work across 8 Local Wildlife Sites in Bristol through My Wild City. Both projects have delivered habitat improvements within important ecological networks in and around the two cities.

Inspire people and communities to care for nature

The future for our local, unique wildlife really is in our hands. Without the skills and confidence to take care of our natural world, its future is uncertain.

Our approach recognises the need for people to have positive and meaningful experiences in nature, to feel connected to the natural world. We provide opportunities to learn about wildlife and develop new skills to care for it. This can then lead to local action, which we are able to support. We know from experience that this helps our own wellbeing and leads to more environmentally and socially caring behaviours.

Inevitably the lockdowns of the last year and social distancing requirements had an unprecedented impact on the Trust's ability to engage safely in face-to-face activities with people. However, opportunities to engage were seized upon and the teams adapted quickly to make the most of new technologies, moving many activities online.

The Our Bright Future project, working with young people between the ages of 11 – 24, successfully adapted to online delivery as well as continuing with some face-to-face activities. The Youth Forum ran a successful Instagram 'take-over' once a week during the first lockdown posting inspiring images.

Online engagement proved to be more successful than we anticipated as it allowed us to bring nature connection to people in their homes during the lockdowns. A particular success story is the development of adult learning courses.

Online delivery allows a greater reach and based on positive feedback we will continue to offer a blend of online and in person courses in the future. In total 19 courses were delivered, including five face-to-face courses, on a variety of topics from bird identification to wildlife friendly food growing with 391 participants.

Digital technology also enabled us to promote activities for families through our My Wild Child project, delivering play sessions for families with under-fives. A number of fun, nature-based activity videos were produced to support families with nature exploration, attracting over 1600 viewings from existing participants as well as reaching new audiences too.

The four-year Wellbeing Through Nature project came to an end with both reach and expected outcomes exceeding expectations. The project framed sessions around the University of Derby's 'Five Pathways to Nature Connectedness', to promote closer, healthier and more sustainable relationships with nature through noticing, emotion, compassion, and finding beauty and meaning.

Across the four years of the project, 94% of participants increased their connection to nature, 89% participants had improved health and wellbeing and 73% participants have gone onto further purposeful activities such as returning to work or volunteering. Reassuringly whilst keeping in touch with course participants last year many fed back how the self-care techniques they had learned were helping to support their wellbeing and mental health during the lockdowns. We will continue to embed the five pathways across all of our work.

Once again, this year we were supported by a wonderful group of committed volunteers. Our volunteers undertake the cyclical conservation work needed on our nature reserves, help us at events, in the office, on our projects and out in the community as ambassadors.

Case Study: Grow Wilder – supporting the planting of wildflowers

Here in Bristol, a dedicated wildflower nursery team is growing over 100 different types of wildflowers so pollinators can feed on their nectar, pollen, leaves and roots. The team focuses on collecting seeds of local origin, or native plants. They have existed in the area naturally for generations (and not been introduced by humans) so are adapted to regional conditions.

In the run up to the first lockdown in March last year, the team at the newly renamed Grow Wilder site (formerly known as Feed Bristol) were busy working on the development of an online shop to for our wildflowers and vegetable plants. The website went live at the beginning of April and saw an astonishing level of demand as people turned to gardening and food growing.

The number of orders for such a new venture did lead to some teething problems and throughout April and May the team worked hard to meet demand and organise home delivery of just over 1400 orders totalling over 12,500 wildflowers, herbs, edible plants, and vegetable plugs.

It was a concerted team effort with the support of many wonderful volunteers who helped with the growing, picking, packing and delivery. The hot weather, whilst helpful to allow the team to work more safely outdoors, added another challenge of keeping the plants well-watered. We estimate that between April to June volunteers contributed approximately 2,000 hours of their time.

Orders for wildflowers have remained high throughout the year and in addition to private sales, we are fulfilling larger orders for many councils and other organisations seeking to

In total approximately 20,000 wildflowers bought from the Grow Wilder nursery have been planted across Avon and beyond in the last year.

Volunteering has been really limited during the year both for office based and conservation volunteers, but we look forward to working with our volunteers again soon.

Summary

- 759 young people between the ages of 11 - 24 participated in talks, courses, volunteering sessions and other wildlife activities either online or in person through the Our Bright Future project.
- 19 adult learning courses on a variety of topics from bird identification to wildlife friendly food growing attracted 391 participants.
- 1400 orders for approximately 12,500 wildflowers, herbs, edible plants and vegetable plugs received during the first lockdown.
- Across the year approximately 20,000 wildflowers bought from the Grow Wilder nursery were planted across Avon and beyond.

Champion the value of nature

Despite a challenging year in which we were unable to engage with people in the usual ways, championing the value of nature became more important than ever. With a focus on digital and building strong networks, we were able to ensure wildlife decline remained on the agenda, and the need for urgent action was not forgotten.

Following our huge success in persuading Bristol City Council to declare an Ecological Emergency in February 2020, we were delighted when Bath and North East Somerset Council in July and North Somerset Council followed suit in November.

Additionally, September saw the launch of the One City Ecological Emergency Strategy, which drew organisations from across Bristol together to create an ambitious vision for a wildlife-rich, ecologically resilient city. The Strategy sets out the key actions needed to tackle the ecological emergency, which has already seen the loss of 68% of the world's wild mammals, fish, birds, reptiles and amphibians since 1970, threatening the natural systems on which all life depends.

There's no doubt, the situation is truly urgent, and, in September we also joined The Wildlife Trusts to launch 30 by 30. This ambitious public appeal aims to raise £30 million to start putting nature into recovery across at least 30% of land and sea by 2030. Funds raised will go towards nature recovery projects that will put new land aside for nature.

In addition, the plan is to repair and link-up existing, fragmented, wild areas, allowing wildlife to move around. The vision is to give nature a home in every corner of the planet – including in the places where people live

With the country under restrictions for much of the year, our social media channels became an important way for people to stay connected with nature. We were able to increase our digital following to over 27,000 across all platforms and reaching over 750,000 people.

Avon Wildlife Trust has worked closely with local press, radio and TV to communicate the value of nature for a wide range of stakeholders, as well as to share the challenges and successes for wildlife in our region. In total, this year we had 30 occurrences of coverage in the media, including:

- A year on from the visit by Greta Thunberg to Bristol and the successful crowd funder that followed, the anniversary was marked by the launch of a visionary rewilding project on College Green as part of the reimagining of this iconic public space.
- An interview with ITV news about the positive impacts of the coronavirus pandemic on wildlife – including reduced disturbance and noise – particularly focussing on the increased opportunities for humans to connect with nature;
- An interview in June 2020 with Radio Bristol about 30 Days Wild, which saw the most people ever sign up to take part in random acts of wildness
- A contribution to the Metro newspaper in July 2020 about the effect of pesticide use on pollinators, highlighting a Wildlife Trusts report revealing 16,900 tonnes of pesticides are applied to the

countryside each year, butterfly populations are down more than 50% since 1976 and nationally, 23 bee and flower-visiting wasp species have gone extinct in the UK since 1850

- Coverage on BBC News and Bristol 247 in September 2020 about the Ecological Emergency Strategy

Our regular weekly column in the Bristol Post continued to cover the breadth of AWT's work on landscapes and with people and communities across the region.

- Popular topics included Bulbtober, which saw 3000 bulbs and 500 wildflowers planted across Avon by over 500 young people; the City Nature Challenge, during the course of which 8,283 observations of 1,144 species were made by 524 people in Avon, a tally which stood out as one of the best globally in number of observations made, and our Wellbeing with Nature programme, which engaged with 1995 people, 89% of whom experienced an increase in their wellbeing as a result of taking part.

About Avon Wildlife Trust

Purpose, Structure and Governance

Established in 1980, and officially opened by The Wildlife Trusts' President Emeritus, David Attenborough, Avon Wildlife Trust is the largest locally-focused environmental conservation charity in the Avon region. We are dedicated to conserving the whole range and diversity of local wildlife, including all species of plants and animals, together with the habitats and natural landscapes that support and sustain them. We are also part of the national federation of 46 Wildlife Trusts which cover the British Isles and jointly benefit from the support of 875,000 members.

The Avon Wildlife Trust Group

Avon Wildlife Trust has legal interests in a number of related companies.

Wholly owned company

Folly Farm Centre Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Trust, formed to run the award-winning residential environmental-learning, conference and events centre in the Chew Valley. This 250-acre nature reserve also operates as a wedding venue and education facility for schoolchildren. Registered limited company no. 6538712, Folly Farm Centre Limited is owned and operated solely by Avon Wildlife Trust with the help of a Board of Directors that includes two trustees and the Chief Executive of the Trust. Any profits from Folly Farm are gift aided to Avon Wildlife Trust to support our charitable activities.

Associated Companies

The Trust is a member, and can appoint one trustee to the Board, of the **Bristol Natural History Consortium (BNHC)** registered charity 1123432 and registered company 06472186. The Trust has a place on the BNHC Board with the other company member, Bristol Zoo Gardens. The activities of the Consortium are taken forward by a Steering Group representing the partners of the Consortium, which also includes the BBC Natural History Unit, the Universities of Bristol, Bath and West of England, Defra, the National Trust, Forestry England, Bristol City Council, BANES, the Woodland Trust and the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust.

The primary aims of the Consortium are to promote public interest in the natural world and to encourage the development of improved techniques for communication about the natural world. The Trust contributes to the core costs of BNHC (£5,000 in both 2019/20 and 2018/19). See note 11 for further financial details.

Jointly owned companies

The Trust is a corporate member of the **Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT)**, incorporated by Royal Charter and registered charity 207238, formed and owned by a federation of the 46 Wildlife Trusts covering the UK.

The Trust contributes £31,117 (£30,150 in 2019/20) to the operating costs of RSWT in return for representation of the Trust's interests at European, UK and England levels, and for the promotion of co-operation and best practice between the Wildlife Trusts nationally. The Trust has a say in RSWT's strategy and management through regional representatives on its two highest decision-making bodies (Council and Forum), but remains entirely independent in terms of its own governance.

The Trust is also a company member of **South West Wildlife Trusts (SWWT)**, a charitable company (registered charity 1094746, registered company 4417769) owned by seven Wildlife Trusts in the SW region. The Trust contributed £nil (£8,000 in 2019/20) to the operating costs of SWWT in return for representation of the Trust's interests at the South West regional level and for the promotion of joint programmes and best practice between the Trusts regionally. The Trust is directly represented on the SWWT Board by its Chair and Chief Executive but, again, it remains entirely independent in terms of its own governance.

The Trust is also a member of **South West Wildlife Fundraising Limited (SWWFL)**, a company limited by guarantee, company number 8529465. SWWFL provides membership recruitment services to members of SWWFL (and other Wildlife Trusts, at the discretion of the SWWFL directors).

The Trust became one of the original members on incorporation of SWWFL, together with Devon Wildlife Trust, Dorset Trust for Nature Conservation Limited, Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, Somerset Wildlife Trust and Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. Worcestershire Wildlife Trust and Hampshire and the Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust became members of SWWFL in 2013/14 and 2017/18 respectively.

The Trust has the right to appoint up to two directors to the SWWFL board. The Company's activities were severely limited by the pandemic and membership recruitment services to the Trust costing £40,930 were provided in the current year (£184,516 in 2019/20).

Governance

Avon Wildlife Trust has dual registration as a charity regulated under charity law, registered charity number 280422, and as a company (registered company no. 1495108) regulated under company law. The Trust is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and the Direct Marketing Association and is committed to good practice in fundraising conduct.

Constitution

The governing instrument of the Trust is its Memorandum and Articles of Association as amended by any special resolution at a General Meeting of Trust members.

Trustees

Avon Wildlife Trust is deeply grateful to the generous contributions of time and professional expertise given by our Trustee Board. This body has full responsibility for the strategic development and direction of the Trust and takes all decisions on matters of Trust policy.

During 2020/21 the Board was supported by two Committees (Governance and Finance & Resources), and by the Health and Safety Management Group. The Board also occasionally set up short-term task groups to look at specific issues and policy areas. The Committees have a specified membership of trustees and operate within terms of reference, remits, rules and specific limits of delegated authority approved directly by the Board. The Board receives the minutes of every meeting of the Committees and task groups.

Two trustees retired during the year, we thank them for their support and their contribution to the Trust and and we look forward to working with them over the coming years. New trustees are provided with an induction to the Trust.

A record of trustees' skills is maintained to ensure that the Board has the expertise, knowledge and experience it needs to provide effective governance of the Trust's work.

Public Benefit

All the Trust's activities are undertaken to provide a healthy living world and connect people to the benefit of nature. We run an extensive programme of public events, activities and services which we make accessible to the widest range of people and promote through a variety of media. Many of our events are available free or at a reasonable price to help cover costs or support fundraising.

Access to our nature reserves is free for the public, all year round. In some cases, however, access is restricted in numbers or at certain times of the year because of the sensitivity of wildlife. The trustees are therefore satisfied that the Trust meets the public benefit test required of charities.

Our Values

- Acknowledge the exceptional importance of wildlife and the natural environment to the health and sustainability of the planet's climate and eco-systems
- Promote the crucial social and economic benefits provided by wildlife and the natural environment to the health and wellbeing of people
- Enhance social inclusion by promoting opportunities for all members of the community to take part in the Trust's work and activities

- Deliver the Trust's objectives by working as far as possible through partnerships with other organisations and community groups
- Promote opportunities for volunteering and developing the skills, interests and personal development of the Trust's volunteers
- Take pride in the Trust's role as a community enterprise created by and responsible to its members
- Foster a culture of innovation, inspiration and creativity in its own internal working, to create a visionary and dynamic Trust
- Demonstrate openness and transparency to all the Trust's external audiences, partners and customers
- Seek to operate at all times with total probity in support of ethical trading and minimise the Trust's own carbon footprint.

Principal Activities

Avon Wildlife Trust:

- Manages 1,125 hectares of key wildlife sites as nature reserves
- Runs a successful environmental-learning and conference centre at Folly Farm in the Chew Valley
- Runs a pioneering, urban centre at Grow Wilder (formerly Feed Bristol) in Stapleton, North Bristol, which inspires and equips people to take action for wildlife through courses and events, wildlife gardening and wildlife-friendly good growing
- Promotes programmes to safeguard or strengthen the representation, extent and distribution of priority species and habitats native to Avon
- Campaigns to protect and promote wildlife and to maximise the social and economic benefits of the natural environment and the environmental services that it provides
- Encourages and supports wildlife-friendly practices by land managers
- Provides enrichment opportunities for the general public by helping people to learn about and enjoy wildlife and to develop special interests in the natural environment
- Enables people to make a positive contribution to wildlife conservation, both by direct action and by reducing the environmental impact of their behaviour
- Provides opportunities for people to acquire skills and experience that enhance their personal development and employability.

Risk management

The Board has the following infrastructure in place to minimise and manage risk to the Trust:

- A **Risk Policy**
- A detailed **Risk Register** for delivering the policy, identifying key potential risks and with a set of control mechanisms and delivery actions
- Operational delivery and review of the risks by the **Management Team** consisting of the Chief Executive and all senior managers
- A **Health and Safety Consultant** who provides specialist advice, guidance, training and other services, working with our Health and Safety Management Group
- A **Health and Safety Development Plan** which prioritises activities for the next year
- The Trust is committed to the principles of accident prevention and to ensure that we have robust health and safety management systems. We seek to provide and maintain safe working environments through appropriate risk assessments, maintenance and formal workplace inspections
- A **lead person** is appointed for each individual risk, to ensure that the most appropriate people in the organisation are directly involved in assessing control mechanisms, identifying delivery and remedial action, and reviewing performance
- The Governance Committee of the Board periodically reviews the risk policy, the risk register and the Health and Safety Development Plan, and receives regular reports on performance
- There is an annual reporting and monitoring process to the Board, and to relevant external audiences

The Trust faced a huge challenge in 2020/21 with the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on our activities and income. The continuing impact of the pandemic is still threatening our activities and may do so for many months or years to come. Brexit and the post-Brexit economic climate will continue to impact our income streams. Funding sources may become more or less available depending on a range of factors, including the impact of Brexit and the post Brexit economic climate.

Income available from charitable trusts and foundations and grant-giving bodies is being affected both by changes to the values of their funds and changes to their fundraising focus in response to Coronavirus and this is likely to continue for some time.

A continued economic downturn could reduce income from membership subscriptions and donations from supporters. In the longer-term, we do not yet know how income from agri-environment schemes will be affected as the UK develops its own approach. The scale of housing and transport infrastructure development planned for the West of England risks damaging important wildlife sites and wildlife corridors, but also provides a significant opportunity for securing funds needed to restore and create habitats to develop a Nature Recovery Network to restore the abundance of wildlife.

Management

Delegation

The Chief Executive has delegated authority from the Board for the overall development, management and operations of the Trust within the strategic framework and policies set by the trustees. There is a description of this delegation in the Governance Handbook, together with delegation procedures in the Trust Handbook setting out clear limits of authority at different levels for the Chief Executive and other staff to act for the Trust or commit expenditure.

Management Team

The Chief Executive is supported by Directors responsible for teams of staff focusing on:

- Nature's Recovery Programmes
- Folly Farm and Finance and Resources.

The Chief Executive, Directors and Senior Managers comprise the Management Team, which meets regularly and drives forward the delivery of the Trust's Annual Plan. Through the Chief Executive, the Management Team has delegated authority for dealing with all operational matters within the policy framework set by the Board.

Fundraising

Avon Wildlife Trust is working to a fundraising strategy which aims to improve our financial resilience by strengthening and diversifying income streams and professionalising our fundraising activity.

The Trust is registered with The Fundraising Regulator and is a member of the Direct Marketing Association. Fundraising and membership recruitment follow the strict standards and guidelines set out by these institutions and by the Institute of Fundraising. All fundraisers are encouraged to attend training and development opportunities offered by The Wildlife Trusts and by the Institute of Fundraising and the South West Institute of Fundraising.

Fundraising appeals are delivered to members and supporters via direct mail and email. Our fundraising ethos is built upon the concept of providing an invitation for people to support us financially, not on suggesting that there is an obligation. The Trust received ten complaints last year but none concerned fundraising. We aim to respond to complaints within a week and wherever possible complaints are seen as opportunities for the Trust to learn and to develop deeper relationships with our supporters, based on trust and integrity.

New members are welcomed by the Trust through our website and by our team of membership recruiters. Our recruiters are managed by South West Wildlife Fundraising Limited (SWWFL), which operates on a not-

for-profit basis and represents the Trust at events across Avon throughout the year. The activity of SWWFL and the membership recruiters has been severely limited this year due to the pandemic and restrictions.

Our membership recruiters work from a stall set up at each event and speak to members of the public who approach them to find out more. SWWFL and the Institute of Fundraising 'mystery shop' its recruiter teams to ensure their approach is following best practice guidelines. Training sessions and training materials are given to new recruiters, followed up with quarterly refresher sessions which include visits to nature reserves and specific on-site training on Avon Wildlife Trust's charitable activities. SWWFL's training includes a specific focus on protecting vulnerable people.

Formal membership of the Trust is open to everybody. There is a minimum annual subscription payable for membership, and this has been kept at a low level to facilitate access to membership for all. Many members generously choose to contribute more than the minimum.

We complied with GDPR by the deadline of 25th May 2018 by contacting our members to secure permission to continue to use email or telephone. We use Legitimate Interest to guide postal communications where appropriate. All new contacts have their consent preferences recorded on our Customer Relationship Management system. Our privacy policy and data holding policies have been updated and are available to view on our website.

Looking ahead

The scale of the crisis facing wildlife and ecosystems is increasingly understood. The next decade represents a vital opportunity for us to tackle the twin threats of climate and ecological breakdown and ensure a healthy planet for wildlife and people.

This fact lies at the heart of our strategy for the next ten years. We are focused on reversing nature's decline and bringing back an abundance of wildlife in our region, and with that in mind we have refreshed our mission and vision to reflect the latest scientific evidence on the scale of the challenges we now face.

To help us focus, we have identified three priority areas.

- 1) **Nature's recovery.** With the aim of creating and connecting wilder landscapes where wildlife and people thrive, we aspire to bring 30% of Avon's land and sea into management for wildlife by 2030. This will create a nature recovery network - an interconnected network across the four districts of Avon and beyond, where wildlife doesn't simply survive but can thrive, moving from place to place, flourishing into the future.
- 2) **Empowering people.** We cannot achieve our goals without help, and therefore we need to recognise how nature benefits people. We have a specific target of seeing one in four people taking action for wildlife, because the science shows that's enough to change the minds and behaviour of the majority. This is essential to help to put nature into recovery.
'Team Wilder' is our solution. This is a community-based approach for getting unprecedented numbers of people involved in our work. Our training will support people to become activators in their communities to make a difference to their local environment.
- 3) **Nature based solutions.** Tackling climate change is a priority for nature conservation, because of the impacts that a changing climate will have on wildlife and ecosystems. The United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) estimate that 20-30% of the species on Earth may be at risk of extinction if the climate warms by an average of 1.5°C, warning that climate change is happening too quickly for many species to adapt and that most ecosystems will struggle if the planet warms by more than 2°C. Absorbing carbon in new and restored habitats such as wetlands, woodlands and well managed meadows can provide win-win solutions, helping to address the climate and ecological crises at the same time.

To achieve this, **we are forming partnerships with the farming and landowning community** to create markets for tools like carbon credits and to bring in private finance for these nature-based solutions.

The aim is that by realising the value of these services provided by nature, we can restore 1000 hectares of habitat – which in turn will store more carbon, reduce more flooding and increase wildlife abundance in our area.

We will continue to make the case for nature with MPs and decision-makers in the West of England. We are leading work to develop an Ecological Emergency Strategy for Bristol and will work with Councils across the West of England to put in place the plans and projects needed to bring wildlife back.

Internally, we will continue to look at the changes we need to enable us to achieve our mission and goals and operate sustainably into the future, seeking to achieve zero carbon operations by 2030. We will continue to develop Grow Wilder as a place where large numbers of people can be inspired and learn how to care for wildlife and we will develop more hubs where we can engage people to take action for wildlife.

Working together with our members and partners we can make a real difference for the wildlife in our region. To learn more about our work, please visit www.avonwildlifetrust.org.uk or email hello@avonwildlifetrust.org.uk

Acknowledgements

Avon Wildlife Trust benefits each year from the generous commitment of our volunteers. This year we were able to manage the range of habitats across our 1,125 hectares of nature reserves, support landowners to adopt wildlife friendly practice, deliver events and support office-based projects and tasks, thanks to many hours of volunteer support and we are hugely grateful for this vital help.

Our local groups provide important support through awareness raising and fundraising activities across the region. We are very grateful to these committed groups who continue to champion our vital work in the region. We could not manage our reserves without the help of our farmers and graziers; their deep knowledge of the sites and their willingness to engage in our conservation work has allowed us to transform the condition of our sites and improve them as key habitats for wildlife in the region.

The expertise and commitment of our local wardens is significant. These remarkable individuals act as the eyes and ears for our nature reserves, organise walks for the public, and help to connect people with these fabulous landscapes that provide so much benefit to local wildlife. Thank you for everything you do to help us in our mission to provide wildlife-rich places and wildlife-rich lives in our region.

A range of funders help to financially enable our work. We are grateful for the commitment of many funders to help us deliver benefits for wildlife and people across our region. Our members donate essential income that enables us to operate efficiently and raise the profile of local wildlife and the importance of nature in people's everyday lives. We also benefit from support from businesses and are grateful to our business members.

Bristol City Council continues to provide our office at a peppercorn rent, so that we are able to expend more of our income on conservation activities. The Bristol Post runs a weekly column that gives us an important channel to champion the value of nature for the City.

We are deeply grateful to all of the people, companies, charitable trusts, foundations and grant makers who have supported our work this year. We are also very grateful for gifts left to the Trust in memory and through legacies.

Particular thanks go to :

AWT Local Groups (<i>various</i>)	Environment Agency	Osborne Clark
The Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust	Garfield Weston Foundation	Players of People's Postcode Lottery
The Banister Charitable Trust	Ibstock Enover Trust	Triodos Bank
Biffa Award	Jan Barkworth	University of Bristol
The Bristol Airport Environmental Improvement Fund	National Lottery Community Fund	University of the West of England
The Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership	National Lottery Heritage Fund	Vine House Farm
Bristol City Council	Natural England	Wessex Water
Burges Salmon	Nature Picture Library	Western Power Distribution
The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust	North Somerset County Council	Woodland Trust
DEFRA		

Financial review

Overview

In April 2020 the senior management team reviewed the budget for 2020/21 and prepared a number of scenarios (optimistic, realistic and pessimistic) trying to assess the possible impact of the pandemic on the Trust's finances. Many projects, activities and events were on hold and the majority of staff furloughed. The core of staff not furloughed were grappling with working from home, the constantly changing situation and the complexity of new regulations.

The impact seen on most income streams was immediate; sales and services (including events at Folly Farm) could not be provided, grant funded projects were on hold, funders were diverting funds to Covid frontline activities and there was huge financial uncertainty for our members, which could have impacted membership subscriptions and donations as the economic impact of the pandemic was felt everywhere.

The reforecast scenarios showed that rather than a budgeted surplus for the AWT Group of £23k that in an optimistic scenario of normal engagements returning in September, the deficit would be £150k, but if this was delayed to January 2021 or beyond, the deficit could be £630k or more.

Immediate actions were taken to mitigate the impact and to support income and reduce costs. This included furloughing up to 70% of staff under the Government Job Retention Scheme, applying for emergency funding for both the Trust and Folly Farm Centre under the Heritage Emergency Fund to cover essential costs in the four months to September 2020, applying for business and hospitality grants through the local authorities, developing new on-line delivery of services such as education courses and at Grow Wilder the wildflower, herb and vegetable on-line shop. The extremely difficult decision was taken to reduce staff through redundancies, in management, administrative and support roles. Non staff costs were reduced as far as possible.

Throughout this we communicated regularly with our members and launched our Coronavirus appeal for help. In the Autumn we were notified of the sad death of a long-term member and supporter, leaving a substantial legacy to the Trust. This legacy has made an enormous difference to the finances of the Trust in an extremely challenging year.

We are immensely grateful to all our funders, partners, local businesses, members, volunteers and supporters for all the incredibly generous support that the Trust has received in such a difficult year, ensuring that the AWT Group could survive the pandemic and can continue to support our local wildlife.

Thanks to this generous support of our funders, members and supporters and in particular a substantial legacy of over a million pounds, the Trust has recorded a surplus of £1,083k in the year compared to a deficit of £43k in the previous year.

	2020/21	2019/20
	£'000s	£'000s
Unrestricted surplus/(deficit)	101	16
Designated surplus/(deficit)	1,080 *	(44)
Restricted (deficit)	(98)	(15)
Total surplus	1,083	(43)

*Note * Includes a legacy receivable of £1,100k.*

The net assets of the AWT Group therefore increased to £8,636k from £7,554k at the previous year-end, of which £6,547k (£6,652k in 2019/20) are heritage assets, including our nature reserves.

Key financial factors:

Donations and legacies (see note 2) increased to £1,919k from £1,029k. AWT was notified in late September 2020 that a long term supporter of the Trust, who had lived in Bath, had left the Trust a residual legacy. Several months later this was discovered to be a very generous legacy of over a million pounds. An accrual for the legacy receivable of £1,100k has been made in these accounts (compared to £206k for legacies

receivable in the previous year). Of this over £770k has been received in May and the balance is expected to be distributed as the estate accounts are finalised later in 2021/22.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic our membership subscription income increased by 5% to £722k from £685k, representing 23% (36% in 2019/20) of unrestricted income in the year and 21% of total income (25% in previous year).

Our current appeals remain open and donations to support our work will continue to be sought. Membership income is key to the stability of the Trust when other income streams can be both fluctuating and unpredictable in timing and value.

Income from charitable activities (note 3) increased to £1,346k from £1,023k in the previous year. This includes the £250k funding from the Heritage Emergency Fund to cover essential costs at both the Trust and Folly Farm Centre during April to September 2020 whilst activities were severely curtailed by the lockdown and restrictions on face to face engagements and hospitality.

Further support was received from the Government Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (£229k) as significant numbers of staff were furloughed from April. Rates relief, hospitality and other business grants provided a further £47k of grant support.

The income from charitable activities represents 38% (38% in 2019/20) of our total income.

Expenditure (note 5) on general fundraising increased from £476k to £510k in the year, and expenditure on charitable activities decreased by 2% to £1,697k from £1,730k in the previous year.

Folly Farm Centre generated a deficit of £24k. Sales just exceeded the pessimistic scenario, despite huge efforts to generate business and diversify activities.

The Centre re-opened in late July 2020 but under severe restrictions limited to a few B&B bookings, small group conferences, leisure visits and weddings (max. 30 guests) during August and September. Then the Rule of Six was announced and confidence fell away, so the Centre was pretty much closed from November with just a few Covid compliant bookings.

Balance sheet (Page 25). The Trust continues to have a strong overall asset position. Heritage assets total £6.5m at the year end (£6.7m at 31 March 2020). The net current asset position of the group is strong at £1,965k (£756k at 31 March 2020).

Restricted funds. The Trust has many restricted funds as shown in notes 15 and 16. These funds represent revenue funding for ongoing projects, appeal funds or fixed assets held by the Trust. At 31 March 2021 the value of these restricted funds was £5.9m (£6.0m at 31 March 2020).

Designated funds. The Trust holds designated funds represented by land (£825k) as well as funds, mainly from legacies, totalling £1,265k, to support strategic opportunities and development. (See note 17).

Cash flow. Some funders were able to provide advance funding on restricted projects to assist cashflow during the pandemic and this plus grants, legacies, appeals and donations has supported cash flow.

Financial reserves

The Group's general unrestricted funds have increased to £632k at 31 March 2021, from £531k at 31 March 2020, and of these £397k (£327k in 2019/20) are free reserves (see note 16).

The trustees have reviewed the reserves and reserve policy during the year. Reserves are held:

- to provide adequate working capital to carry out projects for which external funding is claimed in arrears;
- to provide working capital for essential costs, such as staff salaries and overheads;
- to meet any legal obligations of the Trust.

The trustees aim to maintain the free unrestricted reserves at a level of three to six months' cover of expenditure rather than a fixed-target value. Based upon the 2022/23 budget, this requirement would be £399k - 798k.

The designated reserves established over the last few years to enable the Trust to take advantage of strategic opportunities and long term developments to enable nature to 'recover on a grand scale' has increased to £2,090k (£1,010k in 2019/20) with net expenditure of £25k (£43k in 2019/20) during the year.

Compliance

This Report has been prepared in compliance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, and the trustees confirm that they have had regard to the guidance on Public Benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

The Report also constitutes a Directors' Report as required by Section 415 of the Companies Act 2006 and has been prepared under the exemptions conferred by Part 15 of this Act. In addition, the Report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102) issued by the Accounting Standards Board and the Charity Commission.

Statement of the Trustee's responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Avon Wildlife Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements, in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on a going-concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charitable company and that enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees confirm that as far as they are aware at the time of approving this annual report:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware;
- they have taken all the steps that they ought to in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

The members of Board who were in office on the date of approval of these financial statements have confirmed, as far as they are aware, that there is no relevant audit information of which the auditors are unaware. Each of the members of the Board has confirmed that they have taken all steps that they ought to in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that it has been communicated to the auditor.

The Report of the Members of the Board was approved by the Board on 14 September 2021 and signed on their behalf:

Chair 

David Relph

Trustee 

Katharine Finn

Independent auditor's report

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Avon Wildlife Trust (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2021, which comprise the consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the consolidated Balance Sheet, the charitable company Balance Sheet, the consolidated Statement of Cash flows and the notes to the financial statements. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

An understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the charitable company was obtained from the management and the trustees of the charitable company. The audit team was confirmed to have the appropriate competence and capabilities to identify non-compliance with the framework. The audit plan considered the risk of irregularities, including fraud. An element of unpredictability was built into our sample selection for audit tests. The risk of fraud over income was mitigated to an acceptable level as most of the income is either legacy income, membership income, grant income, or donations that are paid directly into the charitable company's bank account; cash donations are insignificant. We agreed a risk-based sample of income to relevant documentation, performed understatement tests on income, and performed analytical procedures on income. The risk of misappropriation of the charitable company's assets was considered: the charity's heritage assets of land and buildings represent 75.8% of its total net assets and the risk of misappropriation is low; the charitable company's bank account balances were tested and confirmed to relevant documentation; and expenditure was tested for validity by substantive tests that included analytical procedures. Accounting estimates were considered as part of our audit work.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021, and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102); and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the parent charitable company and the parent company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and the parent charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going-concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the group's or the parent charitable company's ability to continue to adopt the going-concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the companies act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 20, the trustees (who are also the directors of the parent charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees and directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements the trustees are responsible for assessing the group's and parent

charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going-concern basis of accounting, unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or the parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our audit report.



MARK POOLEY (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of :

Burnside Chartered Accountants
61 Queen Square, Bristol, BS1 4JZ

Date:

05/10/2021

Consolidated statement of financial activities

for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Note	General Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	2	1,915,579	1,824	1,267	1,918,670	1,028,993
Charitable activities	3	866,992	-	478,862	1,345,854	1,022,849
Other trading activities						
Folly Farm Centre Limited trading		221,696	-	-	221,696	587,866
Fundraising including local groups		3,629	-	-	3,629	6,361
Other income	4	8,210	3,000	-	11,210	36,213
Total		3,016,106	4,824	480,129	3,501,059	2,682,282
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds						
Folly Farm Centre Limited trading	5	210,595	-	-	210,595	519,759
General fundraising	5	509,711	-	-	509,711	475,811
Charitable activities	5&15	1,094,885	24,779	577,947	1,697,611	1,730,177
Total	5	1,815,191	24,779	577,947	2,417,917	2,725,747
Net Income / (expenditure)		1,200,915	(19,955)	(97,818)	1,083,142	(43,465)
Transfers between funds *		(1,100,000)	1,100,000	-	-	-
Other recognised gains:						
Net contribution/increase in investment value attributable to						
Bristol Natural History Consortium	11	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		100,915	1,080,045	(97,818)	1,083,142	(43,465)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		531,156	1,009,562	6,013,016	7,553,734	7,597,199
Total funds carried forward	16	632,071	2,089,607	5,915,198	8,636,876	7,553,734

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

A comparative statement of financial activities is included in note 1.

Note * Transfer between funds is the legacy.

Consolidated and charity balance sheets

at 31 March 2021

	Note	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8	169,063	146,169	30,182	39,231
Heritage assets	9	6,547,186	6,651,510	6,547,186	6,651,510
Investments	11	-	-	1	1
Total fixed assets		6,716,249	6,797,679	6,577,369	6,690,742
Current assets					
Stocks		3,758	3,468	-	-
Debtors	12	1,425,756	617,199	1,402,639	539,678
Cash at bank and in hand		1,081,958	778,730	896,249	645,931
Total current assets		2,511,472	1,399,397	2,298,888	1,185,609
Liabilities					
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	545,845	643,342	250,636	358,144
Net current assets		1,965,627	756,055	2,048,252	827,465
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due after one year	14	45,000	-	-	-
Total net assets		8,636,876	7,553,734	8,625,621	7,518,207
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds – designated	16 & 17	2,089,607	1,009,562	2,089,607	1,009,562
Unrestricted funds – general	16	632,071	531,156	620,815	495,628
Unrestricted funds – investments	11	-	-	1	1
		2,721,678	1,540,718	2,710,423	1,505,191
Restricted funds	15	5,915,198	6,013,016	5,915,198	6,013,016
Total funds	16	8,636,876	7,553,734	8,625,621	7,518,207

The notes on pages 29 to 43 form part of these accounts

These accounts were approved by the Board on 14 September 2021


 _____ Chair
 David Relph


 _____ Trustee
 Katharine Finn

Consolidated cash flow statement

for the year ended 31 March 2021

		Group		Group	
	Note	2021	2021	2020	2020
		£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:					
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities			307,854		332,348
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Purchase of property, plant and equipment					
Fixed assets	8	(56,554)		(64,694)	
Heritage assets	9	-		-	
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities			(56,554)		(64,694)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Proceeds from disposal of fixed assets		1,928		9,250	
Loan repayment from Related Company		-		-	
Bounce Back Loan – Folly Farm		50,000			
Net cash used in financing activities			51,928		9,250
Cash and cash equivalents					
Increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year			303,228		276,904
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period			778,730		501,826
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period			1,081,958		778,730

Reconciliation of net movement in funds to operating cash flow for the year ended 31 March 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Net movement in funds	1,083,142	(43,465)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges – Fixed assets	32,196	26,101
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	(466)	(6,242)
Depreciation charges – Heritage assets	104,324	104,330
(Increase) / decrease in stocks	(290)	(689)
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	(808,557)	82,355
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	(102,495)	205,109
Increase / (decrease) in provisions	-	(35,151)
(Increase) / decrease in investments	-	-
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	307,854	332,348

Accounting Policies

For the year ended 31 March 2021

a) Basis of accounting

The Financial Statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charity Commission Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by provisions of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2019).

The Trustees confirm that the Charity is a public benefit entity.

From mid-March 2020 the lockdown imposed by the UK Government to curb the Covid 19 pandemic impacted on the Trusts activities with many projects, activities and events put on hold and the majority of staff furloughed. The huge support that the Trust has received from so many organisations, members, volunteers and supporters has enabled the Trust to end the year with a surplus.

The Trustees and management have a reasonable expectation that the Trust will be continuing to operate for at least 12 months after the signing of these accounts and remains a going concern. The accounts have therefore been prepared on a going concern basis.

b) Group accounts

The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) and Balance Sheet consolidate the financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary undertakings. The result of the subsidiaries are consolidated on a line-by-line basis.

The charity has availed itself of Paragraph 4(1) of Schedule 1 of the Large and Medium-sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and adapted the Companies Act formats to reflect the special nature of the charity's activities. No separate SOFA has been presented for the charity alone as permitted by Section 509 of the Companies Act 2006 and paragraph 397 of the SORP.

c) Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

d) Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are:

Unrestricted funds – these can be used for any of the charity's purposes;

Designated funds – these are unrestricted funds set aside by the trustees for specific purposes;

Restricted income funds – these funds have been given to the Trust for a particular purpose to be used in accordance with the wishes of the donor.

e) Incoming resources

Legacy income is included in the accounts when entitlement has been established, the amount due can be quantified with reasonable probability, and the timing of the receipt is known with reasonable certainty.

Donated assets have been included in the SOFA at a reasonable estimate of their value, taking into account the market value of the assets and comments made by the donor.

Accounting Policies (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Grants receivable are accounted for when there is sufficient information to enable the claim to be made or the claim has been made and there is clear indication to suggest the claim will be met.

Volunteer help the trust receives support from a wide variety of volunteers. It is not practical to place a value in the accounts on the time volunteered by all these persons, due to the variety of duties performed, the differences in time spent, and the sheer number of volunteers who gave of their time.

Membership income is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities over the life of the subscription, taking into account the type of membership involved.

Incoming resources income from investments, Gift Aid and deeds of covenant is included gross, and is accounted for when it is receivable or the charity's right to it becomes legally enforceable. Provision has been made for the Income Tax claimable at the year end.

f) Resources expended

These are recognised in the period in which they are incurred and include attributable VAT that cannot be recovered.

Membership recruitment fees are billed in the year of recruitment, but are charged in the SOFA over three years to match the income generated.

General overheads

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost is clearly identifiable as relating to that activity. General overheads are apportioned to activities in proportion to the staff costs related to each area of activity.

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the SOFA as incurred over the term of the lease.

g) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of all fixed assets, other than freehold land, by equal instalments over their expected useful lives. The periods (in years) generally applicable are:

• Freehold and leasehold property	50
• Improvements to nature reserves	10-50
• Office equipment and office improvements	5
• Freehold improvements	10
• Motor vehicles	2.5-5
• Computers	4

h) Heritage assets

Heritage assets are assets of historical or scientific importance that are held to advance the preservation, conservation and educational objectives of the charity and through public access contribute to the nation's culture and education at either a national or local level. Freehold nature reserves are included in heritage assets at their acquisition costs and are not revalued or depreciated. The charity aims to preserve and enhance its nature reserves, which are not held for their resale potential. The market value of the reserves is of no practical relevance to the charity's activities. No depreciation is provided because the reserves have an indefinite life.

The cost of leasehold nature reserves are amortised over the period of the lease.

i) Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net-realizable value.

j) Pension costs

Pension costs are charged based on amounts due for the year (see note 18).

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

1. Prior year statement of financial activities

for the year ended 31 March 2020	General Unrestricted Funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	913,436	-	115,557	1,028,993
Charitable activities	342,787	-	680,062	1,022,849
Other trading activities				
Folly Farm Centre Limited trading	587,866	-	-	587,866
Fundraising including local groups	6,361	-	-	6,361
Other income	33,213	3,000	-	36,213
Total	1,883,663	3,000	795,619	2,682,282
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds				
Folly Farm Centre Limited trading	549,759	-	-	519,759
General fundraising	475,811	-	-	475,811
Charitable activities	872,481	46,700	810,996	1,730,177
Total	1,868,051	46,700	810,996	2,725,747
Net Income / (expenditure)	15,612	(43,700)	(15,377)	(43,465)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains:				
Net contribution/increase in investment value attributable to				
WildService	-	-	-	-
Bristol Natural History Consortium	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	15,612	(43,700)	(15,377)	(43,465)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	515,544	1,053,262	6,028,393	7,597,199
Total funds carried forward	531,156	1,009,562	6,013,016	7,553,734

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

2. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Membership income	722,080	-	-	722,080	685,308
Donations	44,327	1,824	37	46,188	102,162
Appeals	60,069	-	1,230	61,299	35,515
Legacies	1,089,103	-	-	1,089,103	206,008
Income from costs recharged	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1,915,579	1,824	1,267	1,918,670	1,028,993

3. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Delivery programmes					
Management of nature reserves	241,780	-	-	241,780	170,657
Biodiversity projects	-	-	-	-	13,705
Living Landscapes programme	5,379	-	150,233	155,612	87,005
My Wild City	26,773	-	65,069	91,842	91,329
Local Partnership working	60,374	-	-	60,374	43,828
Learning	35,653	-	-	35,653	85,743
Communities – Our Environment Our Future	10,973	-	131,945	142,918	176,913
Other community projects	14,200	-	4,040	18,240	47,507
My Wild Child	5,312	-	66,000	71,312	66,200
Wellbeing through Nature	-	-	27,095	27,095	143,704
Feed Bristol project	143,749	-	24,480	168,229	96,258
Carbon offsetting	-	-	10,000	10,000	-
Heritage Emergency Fund, JRS and other support	322,799	-	-	322,799	-
Total	866,992	-	478,862	1,345,854	1,022,849

4. Other income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Other income including interest received	7,744	3,000	-	10,744	29,972
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	466	-	-	466	6,241
Total	8,210	3,000	-	11,210	36,213

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

5. Summary analysis of expenditure

	Folly Farm Centre Limited trading £	Raising funds – General £	Charitable activities £	Support and Governance £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Staff costs (Note 7)	61,440	159,016	882,952	-	1,103,408	1,293,980
Conservation and nature reserves	-	-	489,849	-	489,849	345,713
Fundraising, advertising and publications	1,894	322,922	446	-	325,262	285,564
Folly Farm Centre development	-	-	75,352	-	75,352	70,161
Depreciation	16,450	303	34,565	9,974	61,292	60,266
Legal and professional fees	3,296	-	17,584	22,244	43,124	72,927
Partnership working	-	-	61,004	33,518	94,522	47,026
Premises costs	38,145	-	1,529	19,408	59,082	106,576
Catering, Conference & Activity Costs	4,137	-	-	-	4,137	262,454
Office and administration Governance	85,233	8,665	2,696	65,295	161,889	168,294
	-	-	-	-	-	12,786
Subtotal	210,595	490,906	1,565,977	150,439	2,417,917	2,725,747
Reallocate Support and Governance	-	18,805	131,634	(150,439)	-	-
Total	210,595	509,711	1,697,611	-	2,417,917	2,725,747

Total resources are stated after charging:	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Auditors' remuneration		
– Audit	13,295	1,550
– Other services including tax advisory	2,359	1,179
Depreciation – tangible and heritage assets	136,644	130,431

6. Trading subsidiaries

The Trust is the beneficial owner of shares in one wholly owned subsidiary, Folly Farm Centre Limited, a company incorporated in the UK, and was until August 2019 a joint owner of an associated company, Gloucestershire Wildlife Management Limited (trading as WildService). The Trust did not expend any funds in obtaining these interests.

Folly Farm Centre Limited

The purpose of the subsidiary is to operate the restored buildings at Folly Farm, which are owned by the Trust, as an environmental learning, conference and events venue. Commercial activities include the hosting of day and residential conferences, meetings and social functions. In addition, the Centre provides school, youth, adult and specialist courses, both daily and on a residential basis to further the Trust's charitable purpose by inspiring people about wildlife.

The company continues to pay rent to the Trust for use of the buildings and adjoining area, and any profits generated by the company will be transferred as a charitable donation to the Trust. This income will provide an additional source of unrestricted income that the Trust can apply to projects and activities in furtherance of its charitable purpose. A summary of the results for Folly Farm Centre Limited (before the consolidation adjustments that have been made to the figures in the SOFA) is shown below:

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

Profit and loss account for the year ended 31 March 2021	2021 £	2020 £
Turnover	74,751	618,747
Cost of sales	(38,093)	(252,550)
Gross profit	36,658	366,197
Overheads and administration	(208,246)	(334,864)
Other operating income	147,261	-
Operating (loss)/profit	(24,327)	31,333
Interest received	30	111
Interest payable and similar charges	-	-
(Loss)/profit before taxation	(24,297)	31,444
Tax on profit	13	13
(Loss)/profit for the year	(24,284)	31,457

Balance sheet at 31 March 2021	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets	138,857	106,923
Net current liabilities	(82,929)	(71,711)
Total assets less current liabilities	55,928	35,212
Creditors falling due after more than one year	(45,000)	-
Total	10,928	35,212
Capital and reserves		
Called-up equity share capital	1	1
Profit and loss account	10,927	35,211
Total	10,928	35,212

There are legal contracts in place between Avon Wildlife Trust and Folly Farm Centre Limited:

- Under a **lease** dated 1 April 2009, and renewed in July 2018 the Trust leases the buildings and some of the adjoining land at Folly Farm to Folly Farm Centre Limited. Rent payable in the 2020/21 year amounted to £44k (£44k in 2019/20), although rent was waived for 6 months whilst Folly Farm was closed due to the pandemic.
- A **Trading Agreement** between the Trust and Folly Farm Centre Limited was completed on 29 May 2009 setting out a framework for how the trading subsidiary can operate and for inter-company transactions and charges. This is reviewed periodically.

The AWT Group for the year ended 31 March 2021 includes the consolidation of our subsidiary, the Folly Farm Centre Limited, and Bristol Natural History consortium (BNHC) as an associated undertaking. The investment value of Bristol Natural History Consortium is considered to be impaired as a result of deficits generated, and the value has been written down to £nil. The BNHC 2020 accounts will be available by October 2021.

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

7. Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Group	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	918,004	1,040,496
Employers' national insurance	59,273	72,998
Pension costs	44,164	50,000
Other staff costs	81,967	130,486
	<u>1,103,408</u>	<u>1,293,980</u>

The trustees were not paid nor did they receive any other benefits from the charity or its subsidiaries in the year (£nil in 2020). No expenses were reimbursed to the trustees during the year (£nil in 2020).

The key management personnel of the parent charity, The Trust, comprise the senior management team. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Trust were £166,009 (£187,847 in 2019/20).

The key management personnel of the AWT Group comprise the senior management team of the Trust and that of its wholly owned subsidiary Folly Farm Centre Limited. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the AWT Group were £166,009 (£187,847 in 2019/20). One employee earned between £60k and £70k in the year (in 2020, one earned between £60k and £70k).

The average number of employees in the AWT Group, based on full-time equivalents (FTE) and analysis by function, was:

	2021	2020
Delivery programmes	12.1	23.4
Support staff	10.7	13.1
Folly Farm Centre Ltd	1.7	1.1
Total	<u>24.5</u>	<u>37.6</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

8. Tangible fixed assets

	Office improvements £	Freehold improvements	Office equipment & machinery £	Motor vehicles £	Computers £	Total £
Group						
Cost						
At 1 April 2020	5,940	90,983	72,164	127,951	58,578	355,616
Additions	-	48,160	1,574	-	6,820	56,554
Disposals	-	-	(1,464)	(38,775)	-	(40,239)
At 31 March 2021	5,940	139,143	72,274	89,176	65,398	371,931
Depreciation						
At 1 April 2020	5,940	11,973	52,001	89,336	50,197	209,447
Charge for year	-	10,302	6,766	10,296	4,832	32,196
Disposals	-	-	-	(38,775)	-	(38,775)
At 31 March 2021	5,940	22,275	58,767	60,857	55,029	202,868
Net book value						
At 31 March 2021	-	116,868	13,507	28,319	10,369	169,063
At 31 March 2020	-	79,010	20,163	38,615	8,381	146,169
Charity						
Cost						
At 1 April 2020	5,940	-	12,474	116,328	57,420	192,162
Additions	-	-	-	-	6,820	6,820
Disposals	-	-	-	(38,775)	-	(38,775)
At 31 March 2021	5,940	-	12,474	77,553	64,240	160,207
Depreciation						
At 1 April 2020	5,940	-	10,588	86,973	49,430	152,931
Charge for year	-	-	741	10,296	4,832	15,869
Disposals	-	-	-	(38,775)	-	(38,775)
At 31 March 2021	5,940	-	11,329	58,494	54,262	130,025
Net book value						
At 31 March 2021	-	-	1,145	19,059	9,978	30,182
At 31 March 2020	-	-	1,886	29,355	7,990	39,231

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

9. Heritage assets

	Nature reserves	Improvements to nature reserves	Folly Farm development	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2020	3,477,391	680,763	3,859,606	8,017,760
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2021	3,477,391	680,763	3,859,606	8,017,760
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2020	39,222	336,987	990,041	1,366,250
Charge for the year	6,537	22,607	75,180	104,324
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2021	45,759	359,594	1,065,221	1,470,574
Net book value				
At 31 March 2021	3,431,632	321,169	2,794,385	6,547,186
At 31 March 2020	3,438,169	343,776	2,869,565	6,651,510

The Trust's nature reserves are an important part of the heritage assets of the nation and are held by the charity on a long-term basis. The Trust is responsible for ensuring that the reserves are properly managed in order to:

- conserve and enhance the special wildlife interest within these sites;
- provide a refuge for wildlife from which to re-colonise other sites;
- serve as demonstration sites for sustainable land management and heritage skills;
- provide opportunities for public inspiration, involvement, learning and enjoyment.

All the Trust reserves are freely open to the public, except in a few cases where there are some necessary restrictions due to the sensitivity of the habitats, or seasonal restrictions.

The Trust owns a freehold interest in the following nature reserves at 31 March 2021:

Bennett's Patch and White's Paddock	Hutton Hill	Stephen's Vale*
Brown's Folly	Cleeve Heronry*	Littleton Brick Pits*
Burledge Hill	Folly Farm (<i>see below</i>)	Prior's Wood
Charfield Meadow*	Goblin Combe	Purn Hill
Clapton Moor (New Farm)	Hellenge Hill	Puxton Moor
		Weston Big Wood
		Weston Moor

*Mostly these properties are included in the Balance Sheet at their original cost of purchase. However, no value has been included for the four sites shown above with an asterisk. They are small nature reserves – together covering 4.74ha (11.70 acres) of land – which were gifted to the Trust. They have a small capital value and, in the opinion of the Trustees, the cost of valuation would be disproportionate to the value of the assets.

The Heritage Lottery Fund has a Legal Charge over the Trust's freehold interest in Folly Farm in connection with the major development project there. Viridor Credits Environmental Company has a legal charge over Bennett's Patch and White's Paddock Nature Reserve.

Improvements to Nature Reserves are depreciated over their expected lives (10 to 50 years). Improvements will include access for all paths, fencing, signs, ditches and drainage, sewage treatment, etc.

During the year the Trust also managed **23 other properties** under agreements with landowners.

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

10. Fixed assets held in restricted funds – Depreciation

As a result of the Trust's past extensive investment in fixed assets (held in restricted funds in the Trust's accounts as set out in note 16), there is a significant annual depreciation charge on restricted assets that is included in the Statement of Financial Activities each year as resources expended on restricted funds. This depreciation charge amounted to £109,269 in the year ended 31 March 2021 (£109,271 in 2020) and has been magnified by the Trust's extensive investment in Folly Farm in the last few years. This is shown in the Statement of Financial Activities and can be analysed as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Net Fixed Asset Movements in restricted funds	(109,269)	(109,676)
Net Current Asset Movements in restricted funds	11,451	94,299
Net Incoming / (Outgoing) Resources – Restricted funds	(97,818)	(15,377)

The annual depreciation charge reduces the value of the restricted fund asset balances in the Balance Sheet as in note (f) of the Accounting Policies.

11. Fixed assets – Investments

Subsidiaries

During the year the Trust was the beneficial owner of shares in one wholly owned trading subsidiary, Folly Farm Centre Limited and one jointly owned associated company, Bristol Natural History Consortium.

Associated company - Bristol Natural History Consortium

Avon Wildlife Trust is a member of the Bristol Natural History Consortium (BNHC) (registered charity 1123432 and registered company 06472186) and can appoint one trustee to the Board. BNHC is a charitable company limited by guarantee and operated by AWT in partnership the other company members, Bristol Zoo Gardens and, until December 2017, Wildscreen. The Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2019 were approved by the Trustees of BNHC in October 2020.

During the year ended 31 December 2019, BNHC generated a surplus of £38,071. At 31 December 2019 the charity had net assets of £31,904 (previously net liabilities of £6,167) and free reserves amounting to (£31,904). The Trust considers the investment to be impaired and the value has been written down to £nil.

The Trustees of BNHC expect to complete the accounts to 31 December 2020 during September 2020.

During the period, Avon Wildlife Trust contributed £nil as a membership subscription to BHNC (£5,000 in 2020).

12. Debtors – amounts falling due within one year

	Group	Group	Charity	Charity
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Grants and fees receivable	144,401	113,359	144,401	113,359
Prepayments	33,885	47,361	22,340	25,607
Other debtors	1,247,470	456,479	1,235,898	400,712
	<u>1,425,756</u>	<u>617,199</u>	<u>1,402,639</u>	<u>539,678</u>

13. Creditors – amounts falling due within one year

	Group	Group	Charity	Charity
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	118,178	117,032	52,013	74,974
Other creditors and accruals	406,796	478,602	177,752	237,094
Taxation and national insurance	20,871	47,708	20,871	46,076
	<u>545,845</u>	<u>643,342</u>	<u>250,636</u>	<u>358,144</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

14. Creditors – amounts falling due after one year

	Group	Group	Charity	Charity
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Bank loan	45,000	-	-	-

During the year Folly Farm Centre Limited took out a Business Bounce Back Loan with the Bank of Scotland to assist with cashflow as a result of the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. Repayments start on 7th September 2021 at £833.33 per month for five years..

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

15. Restricted funds

Group and Charity	1 Apr 2020 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	31 Mar 2021 £
Revenue funds					
WENP – Think Nature	36,667		(36,667)	-	-
Blines / Living Landscapes	9,555	46,623	(25,830)	-	30,348
Folly Wellbeing Garden	5,566			-	5,566
Feed Bristol Project	15,771		(2,800)	-	12,971
Avon Gorge Project	10,000			-	10,000
Bennett's Patch and White's Paddock	21,117			-	21,117
Justin Smith Endowment Fund	7,284	37	(626)	-	6,695
North Somerset Levels and Moors	12,996	28,653	(28,727)	-	12,922
My Wild City	2,575	65,069	(67,640)	-	4
My Wild Child	85,044	66,000	(50,936)	-	100,108
Our Bright Future	17,282	131,945	(149,227)	-	-
Wellbeing through Nature	61,148	27,095	(80,800)	-	7,443
Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership	9,528			-	9,528
Newbridge Slopes	15,000			-	15,000
Minibus depreciation fund	9,610		(4,805)	-	4,805
Wild Paths	-	4,040	(4,000)	-	40
Feed Bristol depreciation fund	7,969		(2,253)	-	5,716
Says Court	3,000			-	3,000
Ford Galaxy depreciation fund	9,501		(3,081)	-	6,420
Uphill & Walborough	50,000		(14,599)		35,401
Save our Badgers	19,268	1,230	(6,521)		13,977
Fursman – to support Bristol work	23,912			-	23,912
Learning - IMAYLA	8,000			-	8,000
Nailsea Wetlands		21,666		-	21,666
Puxton		50,000	(305)	-	49,695
Bathurst Basin Research		3,291			3,291
GW Delivery Hub		24,480			24,480
Carbon Offsetting		10,000			10,000
Appeal funds					
Summer 15 Appeal	1,262	-	-	-	1,262
Property improvement funds					
Folly Farm sewage treatment	6,728	-	(232)	-	6,496
Folly Farm	23,259	-	(663)	-	22,596
Folly Farm Access Trail	11,943	-	(728)	-	11,215
Willsbridge – landfill	348	-	(12)	-	336
Willsbridge	13,301	-	(427)	-	12,874
Clapton Moor (50 Years)	33,998	-	(946)	-	33,052
Weston Moor	6,786	-	(226)	-	6,560
Walborough	4,035	-	(139)	-	3,896
Goblin Combe (50 Years)	4,248	-	(118)	-	4,130
Weston Big Wood (50 Years)	11,003	-	(307)	-	10,696
Puxton Moor	57,334	-	(1,600)	-	55,734
Nature Reserves Fund	14,728	-	(511)	-	14,217

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

HLF Conservation Fund	30,542	-	(1,001)	-	29,541
Conservation – reserves fund	17,323	-	(553)	-	16,770
Feed Bristol	16,380	-	(8,190)	-	8,190
Folly Farm Centre development	2,628,900	-	(73,729)	-	2,555,171
Folly Farm volunteer training base	69,995	-	(1,451)	-	68,544
Freehold land and building funds					
Hellenge Hill	86,050	-	-	-	86,050
Puxton Moor	361,529	-	-	-	361,529
Walborough	55,000	-	-	-	55,000
Clapton Moor	185,144	-	-	-	185,144
Weston Moor	333,758	-	-	-	333,758
Tickenham Hill	28,000	-	-	-	28,000
Weston Big Wood	123,572	-	-	-	123,572
Burledge Hill	48,233	-	-	-	48,233
Purn Hill	25,816	-	-	-	25,816
Tickenham Ridge	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Prior's Wood	238,855	-	-	-	238,855
Folly Farm	332,814	-	-	-	332,814
Brown's Folly	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
Huttin Hill	425,000	-	-	-	425,000
Leasehold land and building funds					
Bennett's Patch and White's Paddock	296,339	-	(8,297)	-	288,042
Total	6,013,016	480,129	(577,947)	-	5,915,198

The transfer column in the table above identifies transfers between funds, which are in accordance with funders' instructions.

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

The purpose of each fund is as follows:

Revenue funds:

WENP – Think Nature	Development of a multi-stakeholder dialogue platform and Think Tank to promote innovation with nature-based solutions
Blines / Living Landscapes	To survey, conserve, restore and enhance Avon's grasslands
Folly Wellbeing Garden	To involve the community in growing nature-friendly food
Feed Bristol Project	To involve the community in growing nature-friendly food
Avon Gorge Project	To assess the feasibility of various projects in the Avon Gorge
Bennett's Patch and White's Paddock	To acquire and create a nature reserve in the Avon Gorge
Justin Smith Endowment Fund	To support apprentice ecologists to continue Justin's passion and knowledge
North Somerset Levels and Moors	A catchment approach to restoring coastal and floodplain grazing marsh
My Wild City	To make Bristol a world-leading, nature-rich city where people are connected to the natural landscape, and wildlife is more resilient to growing challenges
My Wild Child	One of six Trusts delivering urban forest school education projects
Our Bright Future	To empower young people in social housing to take ownership of local green spaces
Wellbeing through Nature	To improve health and wellbeing through structured programmes of purposeful activities providing opportunities to explore, learn and take care of nature.
Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership	To develop and implement a management plan for the River Avon catchment
Newbridge Slopes	To enhance the land and engage the community with nature
Minibus depreciation fund	To provide a combination vehicle for the Our Bright Future project
Wild Paths	To provide new careers in nature conservation
Feed Bristol depreciation fund	To provide an outdoor kitchen facility
Says Court	To deliver community activities with nature
Ford Galaxy depreciation fund	To provide a vehicle for the Wellbeing through Nature project
Uphill and Walborough	To benefit nature and engage local communities in the Uphill and Walborough area
Fursman work in Bristol	To support the work of the Trust in the Bristol area
Learning - Imayla	To provide support for an education visit to Folly Farm
Nailsea Wetlands	To construct a wetland to tackle pollution entering Tickenham, Nailsea and Kenn Moor SSSI.
Puxton	Improvements to Puxton Moor SSSI and nature reserve
Bathurst Basin Research	To create a reedbed in Bathurst Basin with the local community
GW Delivery Hub	To set up a Delivery Hub at Grow Wilder site in Stapleton, north Bristol
Carbon Offsetting	To develop a carbon reduction strategy and action plan

Appeal funds:

Summer 15 Appeal	To replace and improve information boards on our reserves
Save our Badgers	To vaccinate badgers against BTB in the Avon area and campaign for vaccination as a viable alternative to culling

Property improvement funds:

On named reserves	To enhance land and property at the named locations
Nature Reserves fund	} To enhance nature reserves owned or managed by the Trust
HLF Conservation fund	
Conservation – reserves fund	
Folly Farm Centre Development fund	To enhance the historic landscape and property at Folly Farm
Folly Farm volunteer training base	To develop a volunteer training base at Folly Farm

Freehold land and buildings funds:

On named reserves	To purchase land at the named locations
Leasehold land on named reserves	To purchase land at the named locations

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

16. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Other Net Assets	Total
	£	£	£
REVENUE FUNDS			
Blines / Living Landscapes	-	30,348	30,348
Folly Wellbeing Garden	-	5,566	5,566
Feed Bristol project	-	12,971	12,971
Avon Gorge Project	-	10,000	10,000
Bennett's Patch and White's Paddock	-	21,117	21,117
Justin Smith Endowment Fund	-	6,695	6,695
North Somerset Levels and Moors	-	12,922	12,922
My Wild City	-	4	4
My Wild Child	-	100,108	100,108
Wellbeing through Nature	-	7,443	7,443
Bristol Avon Catchment Project	-	9,528	9,528
Newbridge Slopes	-	15,000	15,000
Minibus depreciation fund	4,805	-	4,805
Wild Paths	-	40	40
Feed Bristol depreciation fund	5,716	-	5,716
Says Court	-	3,000	3,000
Ford Galaxy depreciation fund	6,420	-	6,420
Uphill & Walborough	-	35,401	35,401
Save our Badgers	-	13,977	13,977
Fursman – to support Bristol work	-	23,912	23,912
Learning - IMAYLA	-	8,000	8,000
Nailsea Wetlands	-	21,666	21,666
Puxton	-	49,695	49,695
Bathurst Basin Research	-	3,291	3,291
GW Delivery Hub	-	24,480	24,480
Carbon Offsetting	-	10,000	10,000
Appeal funds			
Summer 15 Appeal	-	1,262	1,262
Property improvement funds			
Folly Farm sewage treatment	6,496	-	6,496
Folly Farm	22,596	-	22,596
Folly Farm Access Trail	11,215	-	11,215
Willsbridge – landfill	336	-	336
Willsbridge	12,874	-	12,874
Clapton Moor (50 Years)	33,052	-	33,052
Weston Moor	6,560	-	6,560
Walborough	3,896	-	3,896
Goblin Combe (50 Years)	4,130	-	4,130
Weston Big Wood (50 Years)	10,696	-	10,696
Puxton Moor	55,734	-	55,734
Nature Reserves fund	14,217	-	14,217
HLF Conservation fund	29,541	-	29,541
Conservation - reserves fund	16,770	-	16,770
Feed Bristol	8,190	-	8,190

Folly Farm Centre development	2,722,980	(167,809)	2,555,171
Folly Farm volunteer training base	68,544	-	68,544
Freehold land and building funds			
Hellenge Hill	86,050	-	86,050
Puxton Moor	361,529	-	361,529
Walborough	55,000	-	55,000
Clapton Moor	185,144	-	185,144
Weston Moor	333,758	-	333,758
Tickenham Hill	28,000	-	28,000
Weston Big Wood	123,572	-	123,572
Burledge Hill	48,233	-	48,233
Purn Hill	25,816	-	25,816
Tickenham Ridge	50,000	-	50,000
Prior's Wood	238,855	-	238,855
Folly Farm	332,814	-	332,814
Brown's Folly	30,000	-	30,000
Hutton Hill	425,000	-	425,000
Leasehold land and building funds			
Bennett's Patch and White's Paddock	288,042	-	288,042
Total restricted funds	5,656,581	258,617	5,915,198
Unrestricted designated – land at Goblin Combe	825,000	-	825,000
Unrestricted designated – legacy – Fundamental LT Fund	-	1,100,000	1,100,000
Unrestricted designated – funds	-	164,607	164,607
Unrestricted designated funds – Total	825,000	1,264,607	2,089,607
Unrestricted funds – general	234,668	397,403	632,071
Total unrestricted funds	234,668	397,403	632,071
Total funds	6,716,249	1,920,627	8,636,876

The AWT Group total funds increased to £8,636,876 from £7,553,734 at the previous year end.

There is a net current liability in respect of the Folly Farm Centre development project of £167,809. The deficit arose from a fundraising shortfall on the major project to restore the buildings and historic landscape at Folly Farm and the Trust's strategy for addressing the deficits are clearly established:

- First, as Folly Farm Centre returns to trading profitably, surplus profits will be transferred back to the Charity, and this income will be applied to reduce the deficits.
- Second, the Trust is seeking to develop other unrestricted income streams to generate a surplus to be applied to the deficit.

17. Designated funds

	Group 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Charity 2021 £	Charity 2020 £
Strategic opportunities and development	122,869	145,824	122,869	145,824
Landlord repairs – Folly Farm	41,738	38,738	41,738	38,738
Legacy – Fundamental long term fund	1,100,000	-	1,100,000	-
Gift of designated heritage land – Goblin Combe	825,000	825,000	825,000	825,000
Total designated funds	2,089,607	1,009,562	2,089,607	1,009,562

£23k (2019/20 £47k) of the designated fund for strategic opportunities and development has been used to support the vital work required to achieve the Trust's vision to enable nature to 'recover on a grand scale'. This fund is now £123k (£146k in 2020) and it is anticipated that opportunities currently being considered may also be spent from this fund in 2021/22.

The very generous legacy of £1,100,000 left to the Trust this year has been designated for fundamental long term uses to maintain our nature reserves, buy land, improve infrastructure and invest in the future of the Trust.

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

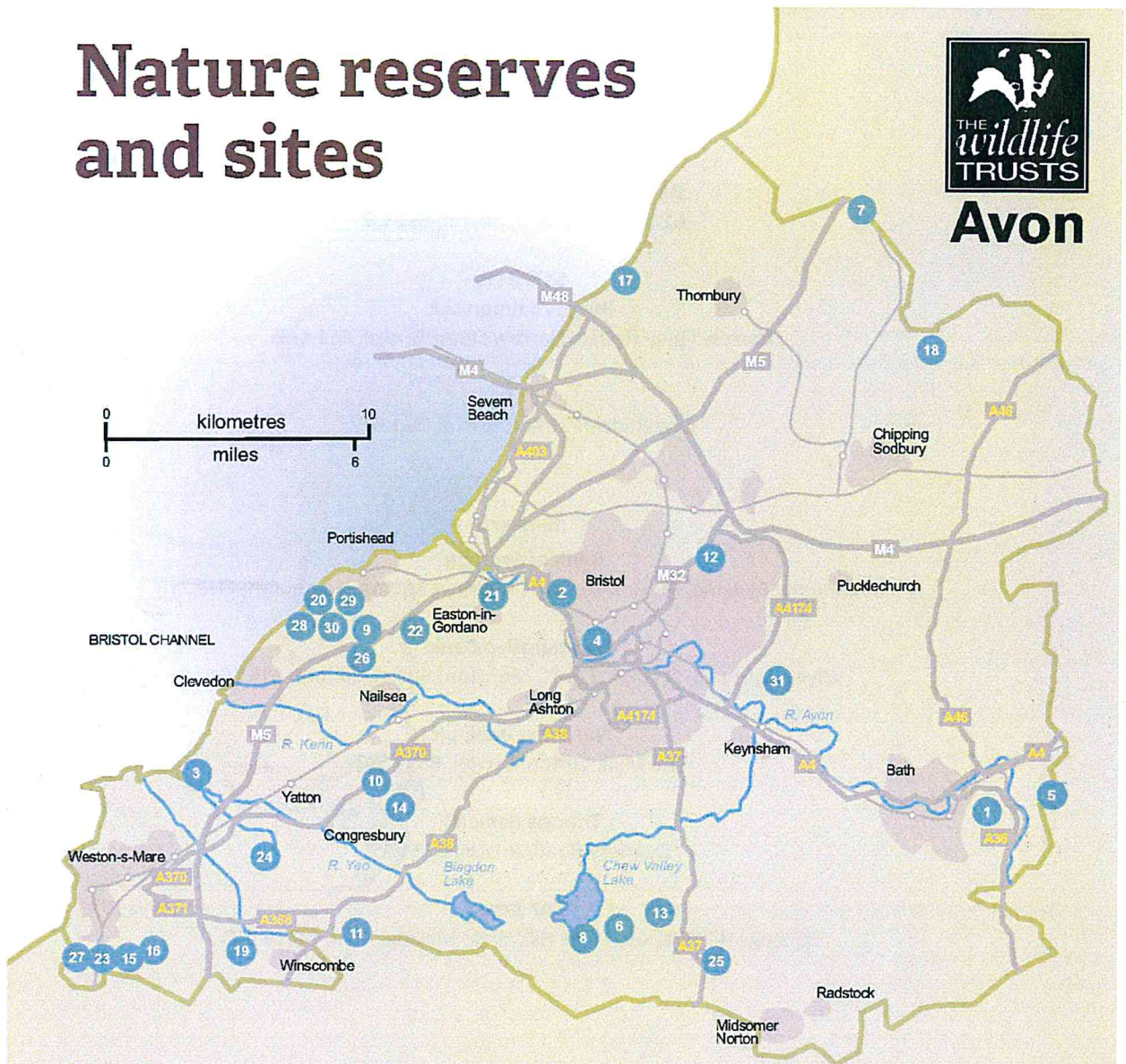
18. Pension scheme

The Trust operates a Group Personal Pension scheme for its employees with Aviva (previously Friends Life). This is a defined contributions scheme, which is managed independently of the Trust. The pension costs disclosed in note 7 represent contributions payable for the year. At 31 March 2021, there were no outstanding pension contributions accrued in respect of employees not yet set up under the pension scheme (£nil in 2020).

Nature reserves and sites



Avon



Key

Nature reserves and sites

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Bathampton Meadow | 9 Clapton Moor | 17 Littleton Brick Pits | 25 Stephen's Vale |
| 2 Bennett's Patch and White's Paddock | 10 Cleeve Heronry | 18 Lower Woods | 26 Tickenham Hill |
| 3 Blake's Pools | 11 Dolebury Warren | 19 Max Bog | 27 Walborough |
| 4 Brandon Hill | 12 Grow Wilder | 20 Middle Hill Common | 28 Walton Common |
| 5 Browne's Folly | 13 Folly Farm | 21 Pill Paddock | 29 Weston Big Wood |
| 6 Burledge Hill | 14 Goblin Combe | 22 Prior's Wood | 30 Weston Moor |
| 7 Charfield Meadow | 15 Hellenge Hill | 23 Purn Hill | 31 Willsbridge Valley |
| 8 Chew Valley Lake | 16 Hutton Hill | 24 Puxton Moor | |



Avon Wildlife Trust

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TLT

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Co-operative Bank

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Nat West Bank plc

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Triodos Bank NV

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